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NATIONAL PARKS

MAGAZINE



SOLDIER TAKES A HIKE—Page Eleven

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

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"The preservation of animal and plant life, and of the general beauty of Nature, is one of the foremost duties of the men and women of today. It is an imperative duty, because it must be performed at once, for otherwise it will be too late."—HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN.



NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

formerly NATIONAL PARKS BULLETIN

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OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1942

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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is planned to be issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation and wise use of our national parks and national monu-

ments as well as in maintaining national park standards.

Letters and contributed manuscripts and photographs should be addressed to the Editor, 1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The National Parks Association is no responsible for loss or injury to manuscripts and photographs in transit. All contributions should be accompanied by return postage.



Albert Schlechten, Courtesy Nat'l Geographic

The living, moving creatures of the wild—most interesting part of any landscape—deserve our constant effort to save them from depletion and extinction. This view shows elk in Yellowstone.

WILDLIFE DIVIDEND

EDITORIAL



AN EMINENT conservationist once wrote: "We no longer destroy great works of art. They are treasured, and regarded as of priceless value; but we have yet to attain the state of civilization where the destruction of a glorious work of nature . . . is regarded with equal abhorrence." Those words are as true today as when written; yet, it is also true that during the intervening years progress has been made toward wider appreciation of wildlife and all nature. The national parks with their millions of visitors annually stand as monumental proof of this.

As a bus wound its way along a mountain-side in Yellowstone, one of its passengers saw a moose in a nearby grove of aspen trees. As the passenger pointed it out to his fellow travelers, the bus was halted. Two other moose then came into view. All three were bulls with large antlers.

The scene was one to hold the attention of the most seasoned outdoorsman. To these park visitors, who for several minutes thrilled to the sight, it was the event of a lifetime.

Significant about this wildlife exhibit is the fact that those three fine animals still roam the wilds to be seen and enjoyed again and again. That is the way in the national parks, for here all nature is preserved intact—saved from the devastating hand of man. During the park season visitors in camp grounds, driving the highways or hiking and riding the wilderness trails are enjoying wildlife in this way throughout the entire National Park System.

Many park visitors wander far afield in search of wildlife and spend hours observing it just for the sheer pleasure that comes from watching wild creatures undisturbed in their natural environment. Observation teaches, and with wildlife as with all else, to learn is to begin fully to enjoy.

This method of pursuing wildlife brings pleasure that never ends in remorse, for the trail of that hunter leads not to the death of the hunted; and to that hunter wildlife pays a dividend of true joy, satisfaction, a sense of peace and well-being.

Someday, perhaps, this truth will be universally recognized and the war on wildlife for mere sport will be subordinated to a greater appreciation of nature's gifts. Guns used for needless killing will be laid aside, and those who carried them will know a greater and more lasting pleasure for which there are no bag limits and no closed seasons.

Foremost among the agencies teaching nature-appreciation is the national park ranger-naturalist lecture service which is far-reaching and has strong popular appeal. There are school courses, magazines and various organizations also doing excellent work in helping our people to find pleasure and recreation through the study of nature. Educational work of this kind must reach into every corner of our land, for it is the birthright of all who take pleasure in being out-of-doors to know that the fullest measure of enjoyment to be obtained from wildlife cannot come through its destruction, but through its protection, study and observation.

Big Bend National Park Soon a Reality

By MINER R. TILLOTSON

FOR years Texans have dreamed of the Big Bend country of the Rio Grande becoming a national park. The dream is now approaching realization. Park-minded Texas, with its Legislature's appropriation of \$1,500,000, has completed the purchase of the necessary lands which will be deeded by the State of Texas to the United States Government. The Congress has already authorized the Secretary of the Interior to accept them, and the Secretary is further authorized, upon acceptance, to designate the area as the Big Bend National Park. It will be the first national park in the nation's largest state. With an area of ap-

proximately 725,000 acres, it will be one of the largest national parks, exceeded in size only by Yellowstone, Mount McKinley, Glacier, Olympic and Yosemite.

Proposed Big Bend National Park is located on the Mexican border west of the Pecos River and lies within the "big bend" of the Rio Grande. It is the last great wilderness of Texas. A most extraordinary example of rugged, unspoiled country, it is one of the few areas in all the United States that remain unchanged by the march of civilization.

Scientists are wrestling with geologic mysteries of the area, seeking the answers

Air view of Mariscal Canyon of the Rio Grande.

National Park Service





National Park Service

Looking southward into Mexico from the Chisos Mountains.

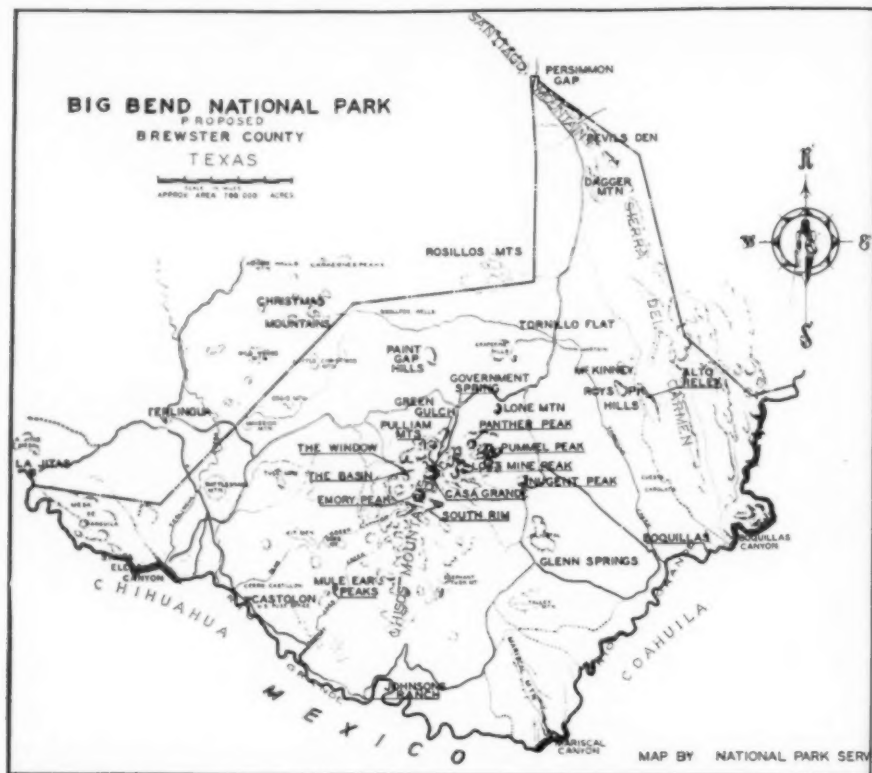
to such riddles as the source of extensive volcanic beds, and the story behind remnants of prehistoric monsters that inhabited the region in the long, long ago. One discovery is a petrified oyster that measures more than four feet in length. Six such oysters on the half-shell would have provided a fair-sized meal for one of those prehistoric monsters. Through the great uplift of jagged, colorful peaks the Rio Grande during the centuries has cut three canyons—the Santa Elena, Mariscal and Boquillas—whose sheer limestone cliffs in places tower more than 2000 feet above the river. Here the prehistoric Cave Dweller Indians lived. Their caves have yielded an assortment of artifacts, such as baskets, wooden implements, matting, sandals and cooking utensils.

Mexico is proceeding with preliminary arrangements for the establishment of an adjoining national park south of the river. The two areas will form the Big Bend International Park. Like the Glacier-

Waterton Lake International Peace Park which extends our good neighbor policy into Canada, the Big Bend International Park will further cement our friendly relations with the Republic of Mexico. It is in Texas that the colorful characteristics of Mexico have made perhaps the greatest influence upon our music, our dance and our art; but besides a blending of cultural sympathies, the economic and political relationships between Mexico and the United States are becoming increasingly important.

Big Bend National Park will be an all-year park, for its southern location gives it a mild winter climate, while the high altitude of its mountain ranges offer a refreshing change from the warmth of the Texas plains.

The area is a land of rough and wild beauty. No railroad traverses its rugged vastness, and its few roads disappear into the rocky wilderness. The region is a semi-arid plain, replete with desert vegetation,



through which is thrust a group of mountain ranges notably the scenic Chisos. These are the southernmost spur of the Rockies with a top altitude at Mount Emory of 7835 feet. From the south rim of the Chisos, down to the Rio Grande and beyond, over the peaks of Chihuahua and Coahuila, the view is considered the equal of any in existing national parks, and it gives a thrill that compensates for the rigorous climb to that eminence.

Wildlife in the Big Bend country is abundant. More than two hundred species of birds have been recorded there. Among them are several species that are more strictly residents of Mexico, but whose range extends into the United States only along the border country. Several of these are the Texas blue-throated hummingbird,

which is unusually large for one of its kind; the Couch jay; the Mexican phainopepla, which is jet black with a head-crest and conspicuous white markings on the wings; the dwarf red-shafted flicker; the painted redstart; the pink and red pyrrhuloxia, which somewhat resembles a cardinal but which has a bill not unlike that of a parrot. Here, too, is the yellow, red and black western tanager whose southern limit of breeding range is in the Big Bend country. Other species that are rare or unknown elsewhere in this country include the Mearns quail, scaled quail, zone-tailed hawk, band-tailed pigeon, Inca dove, white-necked raven, cactus wren and curve-billed thrasher.

Over sixty species of mammals are also found in the Big Bend, and among these

are the mountain lion now very rare, black bear, several species of deer including the Sonoran deer, coyote, lynx, badger, peccary, gray fox, kit fox, raccoon and the Texas jack rabbit which is the animal most frequently seen. Antelopes once were plentiful and are now coming back due to stocking in the vicinity. Species which have become rare due to gunning should return to normal numbers under the protection to be afforded them through the establishment of this new national park.

In the low country the plant life is similar to that found in the desert areas of the Southwest. Creosote bush is one of the most conspicuous species. Mesquite is prominent as well as prickly pear cactus, yucca, lechuguilla and the tall spined stalks of ocotillo which are tipped with flaming red blossoms in early spring. Apache plume, desert willow, ash, persimmon and hackberry inhabit the lower canyons, while at higher elevations there are several species of oak, acacia and mimosa,

various junipers and pinyon pine. In the cooler situations of some of the higher canyons there are found Arizona cypress, Douglas fir, madrone and yellow pine.

Gateways to the park are through Alpine and Marathon, Texas, both of which are on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and on U. S. Highway 90. From Alpine the distance to the proposed park area is about 110 miles, and from Marathon about eighty miles. Though there are as yet scant accommodations for tourists, many people have made camping trips there during the past few years. When the area becomes a unit in the National Park System, accommodations for visitors will be provided. Buildings will probably be of ranch-house or Mexican hacienda design—an architectural style in keeping with the Southwest. To maintain the area in its original wilderness condition, such accommodations will be kept to a minimum and made as inconspicuous as possible.

Across the Rio Grande stands the little adobe town of Boquillas, Coahuila, Mexico, and beyond rise the Sierra del Carmen.

Department of the Interior by George A. Grant



Living Gems of the Everglades

By DR. PAUL BARTSCH

Photographs by the Editor

BEAUTY carries the seeds of its own destruction. The truth of that statement is all too often made manifest, and the land mollusks or snails of the Everglades are a case in point. The shells of these mollusks, ranging in length from one to one and a half inches, have a glossy, china-like surface that is varied in its delicate coloration and pattern. Some shells are pure white, or white with a pink apex. Others are bright orange at the mouth of the shell grading to yellow and then to white. Many have tan or orange or black stripes that follow the spiral of the shell. Some have thread-like stripes, while others have broad ones; and there are shells with mottled patterns and irregularities of design in blue-gray or greenish black, and so on; and no two shells are alike.

There can be little wonder, then, that these Florida mollusks with their conspicuous size and remarkable beauty should produce in the traveler an irresisti-

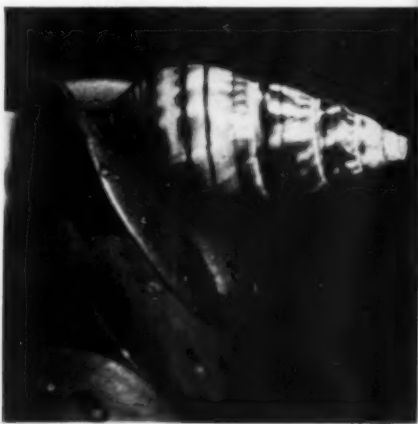
ble desire to take them home. This combined with the clearing of land for agriculture, as well as the efforts of the curio dealer may lead to their extinction in Florida.

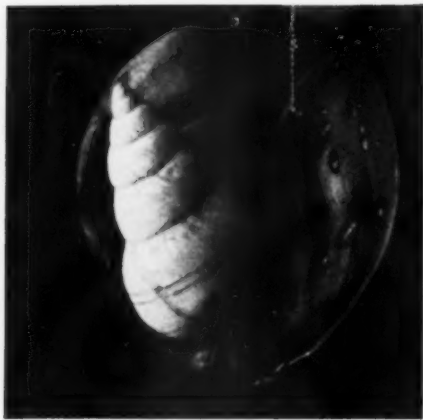
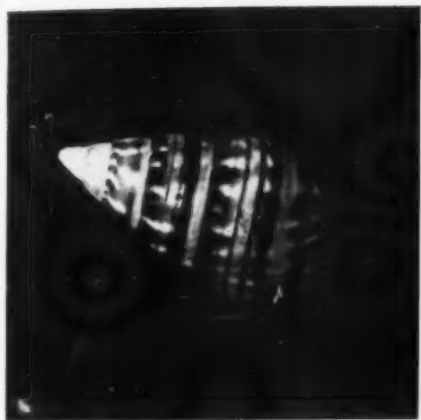
Belonging to the genus *Liguus*, these snails are found only along the keys and on hammocks of the Everglades. Fortunately most of this area lies within the boundaries of the proposed Everglades National Park.

It is a region rich in plant and animal forms that are found nowhere else in continental United States, and *Liguus*, being among these, offers one more reason for the creation of a national park on this tropical tip of Florida.

Cuba, the Isle of Pines and Haiti are also the home of the genus *Liguus*, and these areas including Florida comprise its entire range. It is believed that members of the genus originally came to Florida from Cuba during Pleistocene or recent

With a china-like surface and endless variety of patterns and colors, the land snails of the Everglades are the most beautiful of their kind in North America.





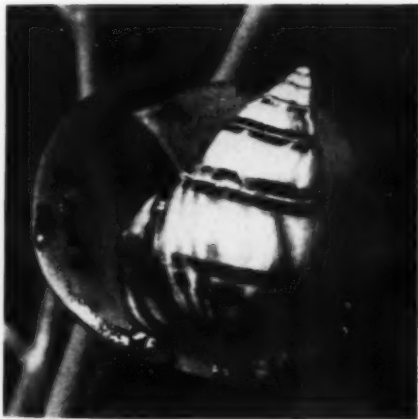
Many are pure white, or white with a pink apex, and there are some with bright orange at the mouth of the shell grading to yellow and white.

times as young animals attached to leaves carried by hurricanes. This belief arises from the fact that track charts of the West Indies hurricanes show that those hurricanes sweeping the lower Florida keys usually cross western Cuba; while those striking the upper keys have usually traversed the central northern coast of Cuba. The relationship of the *Liguus* fauna upon

these keys to Cuban forms tells the same story. In the Florida hammocks the snails climb and attach themselves to the bark of the trunks or branches of trees where they cling tenaciously in bright weather. In wet weather they become active and feed on micro-fungi which they glean from the bark.

During the breeding season they descend

Some have thread-like stripes, while others have broad ones; and there are shells with mottled patterns and irregularities of design, but no two are alike.



from their arboreal habitat and come to the ground to deposit and bury their eggs which are laid in clutches of from six to twelve. The young mollusks after emerging from the shell promptly seek an arboreal habitat.

The expression "slow as a snail" is indeed significant when we consider the following statement by Dr. Charles T. Simpson who was one of America's keenest mollusk students: "At my home I once observed one of these snails which had doubtless left my near-by hammock and was attempting to work its way out into the open pine woods. We had rains for several days in succession, and during this time it moved away from the hammock at the rate of about twenty-five feet a day. I kept close

watch and set stakes to mark its onward passage. This one and others I have noticed crawled along the stems of small shrubs or grass, over fallen logs, or anything that made a firm pathway. In dry weather the snail would cling to a stem and would not attempt to go on until it rained again."

All who appreciate beauty in nature may well view with regret the gradual disappearance of these living gems, the most exquisite of North American land mollusks, from the Everglades scene. It is to be hoped that, before it is too late, the people of Florida will complete the negotiations toward the creation of that great nature sanctuary, the proposed Everglades National Park, so that further exploitation of its rare treasures will be ended.

Picturesque island-like hammocks in a sea of grass are the habitat of the Everglades land snail.

U. S. Department of the Interior



SOLDIER TAKES A HIKE

By RALPH H. ANDERSON

AN ARMY sergeant recently called at the Chief Ranger's Office in Yosemite National Park to inquire about talking a hike—a two-weeks back-packing trip through the high country. His name was Starr West Jones. Routine life in barracks and long hours of drill on parade grounds had heightened his enthusiasm to enjoy nature at its best. The park rangers mapped out a route for Jones, and, loaded with a forty-seven pound pack, he headed alone up the Ledge Trail for Glacier Point, 3254 feet above the floor of Yosemite Valley.

At Glacier Point, Jones studied the mountain passes through which he would enter the "enchanted land", then he turned south along the Pohono Trail. For hours he met no other hiker. At Taft Point, overlooking the westward view of Yosemite Valley, a hawk soaring among the peaks was the only sign of life. Crossing Bridalveil Creek at evening, the sergeant wrote in his notebook as follows: "The sunset clouds above, moving in rhythm with the waters of this idyllic mountain stream, cast a spell of unearthly tranquillity".

Despite his large pack, Jones was obliged to forego meals of great variety and was obliged to sleep with a minimum of bedding. The account of his first camp reads: "Between two huge rocks I soon had a cheerful blaze. How fragrant and stimulating the smell of wood smoke and frying bacon. Fifteen and two-tenths miles for the day. Kept the fire going most of the night to supplement my single blanket with the heat reflected from the big stones. About midnight a herd of deer woke me. Up at

dawn. Ice along the stream's edge, and my poncho covered with hoarfrost. Breakfast consisted of a full mess kit of rolled oats with raisins cooked into it and seasoned with brown sugar, and the ever-welcome pint of tea. Broke camp; rolled pack; put out cook fire with water; and on my way by 8:15."

Jones introduces a new angle on nature appreciation and the pleasure to be derived from exploring wild areas when he writes: "John Muir may have been the first properly to exploit their beauty; but we of today, who come to them from the turmoil of skyscraper Times Square, or harlequin, unreal Hollywood, are in a better position to appreciate their centuries-old grandeur and tranquillity."

Because humans are gregarious creatures, few of them venture alone on mountain trails; yet anyone who does so is well rewarded, for the lone hiker perceives new sights and sounds, and to him there comes a deeper appreciation of scenic grandeur. Sergeant Jones describes this in his notebook as follows: "The joy of travelling these trails is heightened by being alone, with only the birds and squirrels to scold as the sound of one's foot-falls and the creaking of one's pack straps momentarily disturb their peace." This soldier's appreciation is further shown in his comments written upon reaching Fernandes Pass: "In the rarified mountain atmosphere one can see for great distances. But now my gaze turns inward upon myself. Much that before has been clouded, I see clearly for the first time—even into the years ahead.

THE COVER—Standing before the sequoia tree section at Yosemite Museum, Yosemite National Park, Ranger Arthur Holmes maps out a hiking trip into the high country for Sergeant Starr West Jones.



Ralph H. Anderson

Banner Peak and Mount Ritter on the left, with the Minarets, as seen from a point on the trail traversed by Sergeant Jones.

Doubts and fears have slipped from me and standing here alone upon the heights I know a peace of mind which will follow me always."

Though Jones did not seek the company of a party which camped near him one night, he is not a hermit, for he enjoyed people where he found them, particularly the rangers whose very lives toughen the fiber of their characters. At Buck Camp he met Ranger and Mrs. Pat Engle and accepted an invitation to supper.

In his lone travels the soldier visited Chain Lakes. These he described as "three jewels resting in rock cradles." Then he adds, "The tourist who marvels at the beauty of Mirror Lake in Yosemite Valley feels but a faint beat of the heart of the

Sierra. Chain Lakes are like a throbbing artery pulsing in her throat".

Long stretches of country above timberline brought Sergeant Jones to Isberg Pass from where he dropped down the scenic trail to Washburn Lake. Of this he says: "The particular charm of this gulch trail to Washburn Lake is worth a hike over any mountain range. I lost altitude quickly here and swung along past cataracts and cascades that ended in quiet pools rimmed by maple and aspen. Then suddenly appeared Washburn Lake. It was quiet as a churchyard, and tiny wavelets lapped an oval, sandy beach. 'Look closely, Starr,' I whispered to myself, 'what you are seeing now will add music to all you do through the years to come'."

PARK SERVICE AIDS ARMED FORCES

Through its recreation program the National Park Service is aiding the war effort by providing recreation and relaxation opportunities for the men of the armed forces. Hundreds of thousands of American soldiers, sailors and marines already have availed themselves of the program. The Service has assisted the War Department in constructing army recreation centers

and rest camps in twenty-three states and the District of Columbia.

Admission fees and other charges made by the Federal Government in national park areas have been waived for men in uniform, and in many of the parks the concessionnaires operating lodgings and other accommodations have made special rates for members of the armed forces.

THE COUNTRY BEYOND

Photographs by George A. Grant for the Department of the Interior

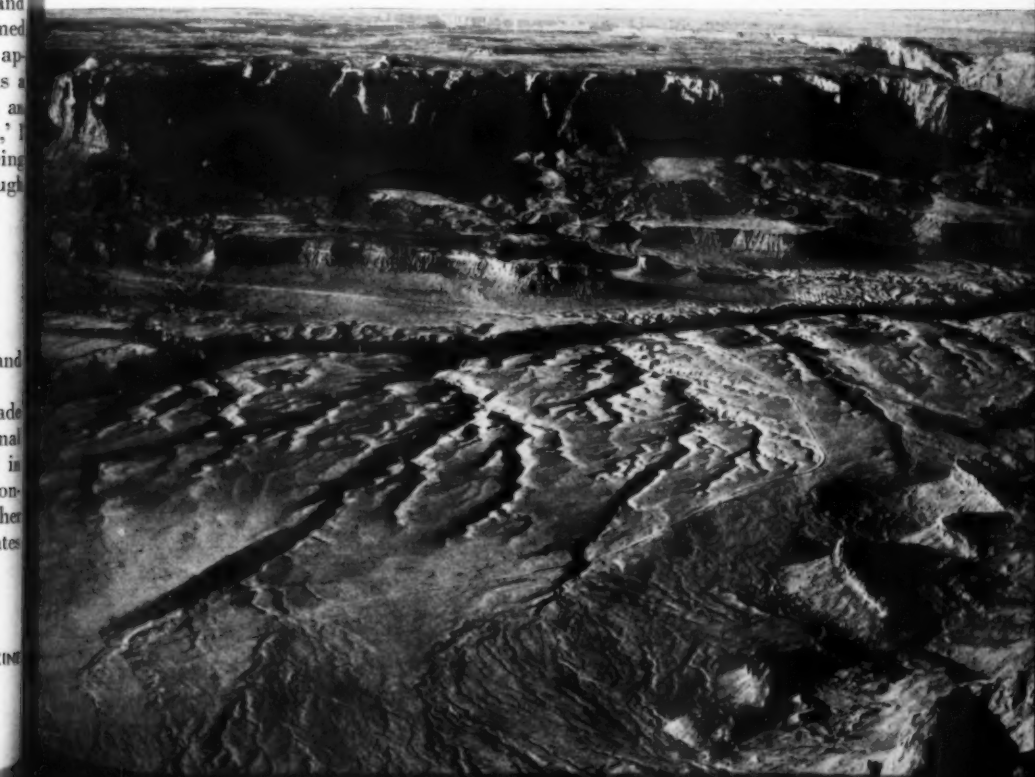
IN southeastern Utah there is a rugged stretch of country known only to the few who have ventured there. It is a vast, nearly roadless territory along the edges of which are little towns like Greenriver, Crescent and Thompsons on the north; Moab, Blanding and Bluff on the east; and Fredonia and Mount Carmel on the west. Around it, too, are the fabulous Arches, Natural Bridges, Rainbow Bridge and Capitol Reef national monuments, and Bryce Canyon National Park.

Through the heart of this great "unknown" winds the Colorado River on its way to the Grand Canyon. If you look at a map of the area you will find on it such highly descriptive names as Castle Gulch,

Cataract Canyon, Orange Cliffs, Dirty Devil River and Starvation Creek. How well the last two explain the effect the country had upon its first explorers. It is a land of deep canyons and gorges, terraced plateaus, cliff-bound mesas, buttes and temples, escarpments, natural bridges, and coloring so gorgeous as at times to seem almost gaudy. All of it is on so gigantic a scale as to be difficult of comprehension, particularly when seen from the air as in the accompanying views. Distances are vast. Accessibility is difficult—in places impossible.

These pictures show parts of the southern section of this weird country. Views of the central and northern sections will appear in future issues of National Parks Magazine.

Lee's Ferry Bridge over the Colorado touches the south end of this vast region. Below are echo cliffs, the Painted Desert, and in the distance the Vermilion Cliffs and Paria Plateau.





The canyon of the Escalante River twists its way across a land that is almost without vegetation, a land of solitude and desolation, of brilliant color and fantastic erosion.

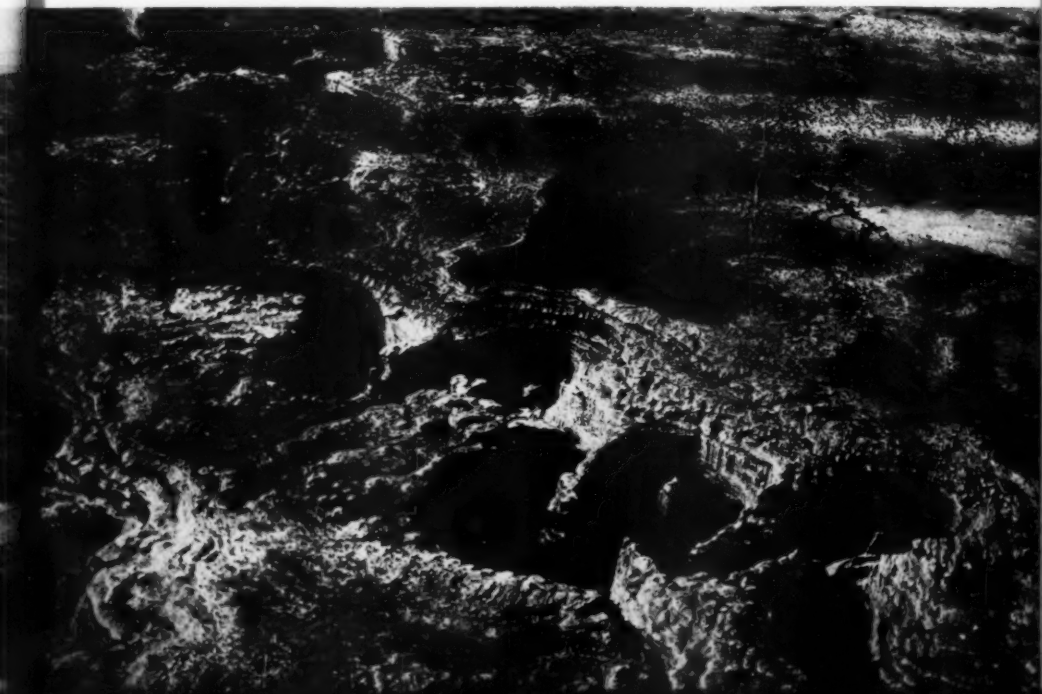
Between towering canyon walls the muddy Colorado cuts across the sandstone desert and at this point is joined by the fabulous San Juan River coming in from the left. Beyond is Navaho Mountain.





Arch Canyon from the air resembles a boulevard lined by massive buildings with towers and setbacks in effect like the great architectural creations of our large cities.

Grand Gulch shown here at its juncture with the San Juan is a tortuous but beautiful canyon, stranger in appearance than the wildest conception of fiction.





At a point just south of Navaho Mountain the Colorado meanders in wide curves hemmed in by the sculptured cliffs of a plateau country that is hundreds of feet above the level of the river.

Taken above a location called Hall's Crossing on the Colorado, this view shows a black lava flow over-lying a pale-colored sandstone plateau from which rises Ellsworth Mountain.



Picturing Wildlife in the National Parks

By WILLIAM L. FINLEY, Sc. D.

Photographs by the Author

WILD creatures in the national parks have become assured of their immunity to guns, and because gunning is not permitted in the national parks, there is an abundant population of wildlife therein. For both of these reasons the national parks offer the finest hunting to the man with the camera. Unencumbered by bag limits, licenses and closed seasons, the cameraman, if he is lucky, returns home after a day of hunting with lasting proof of his efforts.

As anyone knows who has photographed

wildlife, pictures are an unending source of pleasure. They are a source of pleasure not only to the photographer, but to all who see them.

The wildlife photographer frequently makes his pictures available for publication, while his color movies or stills he shows to audiences; thus hundreds or even thousands of people may reap a harvest of pleasure from them. And such use of his pictures brings to the photographer a certain satisfaction unknown to the man who hunts wildlife with a gun.

What cameraman would not be proud to come home with a picture like this to prove his skill?





Striking in appearance, the North American antelope makes the perfect trophy of the cameraman's hunt.

To pursue wildlife with a camera offers, I believe, more excitement and sport than hunting with a gun, and certainly it requires greater patience and skill.

Anyone intending to use the national parks for wildlife photography will find that although Yellowstone, from the standpoint of large animals, has the greatest variety, all the parks contain some large species. While making a wildlife survey of Mount Rainier National Park a few years ago we found a considerable number of mountains goats, deer and bear. In Yosemite National Park we have pictured

both bear and deer, and the latter here are usually very tame. In the Grand Canyon we found a small herd of antelope which showed no alarm at our approach and permitted us to take good photographs of them. In the high mountains around Crater Lake we also found deer and bear. Olympic National Park provides one of the wildest and finest habitats for elk anywhere in the National Park System, and marvelous pictures have been taken of the elk there. During a visit to Alaska in 1926 we enjoyed a pack trip through Mount McKinley National Park, and here we saw hundreds

of sheep and caribou. In all the parks we have found also an unlimited supply of smaller mammals and birds for the photographer's bag.

Under the protection of the National Park Service most forms of wildlife have learned to tolerate man's presence to a greater extent than elsewhere. Except in the case of the bears which sometimes become pests due to handouts of food from park visitors, this tolerance adds much to the

enjoyment of the visitors. Deer and occasionally an antelope, as well as several species of smaller animals, frequently become tame; but most animals are thoroughly wild in spite of apparent forbearance. Yet, because it is on occasions possible to approach comparatively close to an animal, visitors are apt to throw caution to the winds regardless of constant warnings by the rangers. In the case of bear and moose it is particularly advisable

A lasting souvenir of days spent in the out-of-doors is this picture of a young mule deer.





Three with one shot. Though the cubs are appealing, the photographer must beware of their mother.

not to go too near. As for the bears, one should be well acquainted with their laws of etiquette. My experiences with both these species prove conclusively the soundness of the rangers' advice.

A year ago at Yellowstone we wanted close-ups in color of a bull moose. Having been informed there were two bulls in the meadowlands east of Tower Falls we proceeded there and found three moose lying in the deep grass among dwarf willows. For some time we stalked them as they alternately browsed and submerged in the grass. Later one came into the open. I had worked to within thirty feet of him when he turned and saw me. At that instant I took his picture. Fortunately I was near a clump of willows, for the moose suddenly shook his head, stamped a foot and charged. With

his horns in the velvet I knew I had nothing to fear from them, but the deadly slashing with hoofs was something else again. By quick dodging among the willows and brush I was able to keep out of his reach. The chase ended only when the moose gave up and wandered off.

My other experience occurred also in Yellowstone. We had been watching a mother bear and her two cubs. This bear like many another in the park had discovered that it was easier to obtain a living at the camp ground than by hunting in the woods. Although she seemed a little backward about meeting people, she knew well that the cubs would attract humans and that the inevitable handout would be forthcoming. The cubs, as a matter of fact, were much too friendly. I had been busily pho-

tographing them and was attempting to put a new film into the camera when they decided to find out whether the camera contained food. That proved to be too much for mother bear. She did not intend to have her cubs shot even by a camera at that close range. With two "woofs" she came at full speed toward me. In a moment for thought, I determined to remain motionless. Looking her in the eye as she came on, I fully expected a headlong collision, but at eight feet she stopped. We gazed intently at each other. Then she turned her head slowly, swung around and walked away.

If anyone doubts that hunting with a camera cannot be exciting I am sure these

two incidents will change his opinion.

Wildlife photography demands of the hunter not only careful planning and great stealth at all times, but frequently the cameraman must use imagination. In an effort to obtain pictures of mountain goats, we once made a pack trip into the north country of Glacier National Park. Because of the wildness of the animals, it seemed that no amount of stealth would bring us near enough to take pictures of them. Endless stalking proved futile; but what, I wondered, would be the results if I put on the goats' own costume. Securing a goat skin, I draped it over me and was presently rewarded.

EMERGENCY FOREST FIRE CONTROL

LAST SPRING, because of a threat of sabotage incendiarism to the nation's forests during the 1942 forest fire season, the Sixth Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Bill, 1942,—H. R. 6868,—was introduced in Congress calling for emergency funds in the amount of \$19,565,000 for the control of forest fire. This was to be appropriated to the departments of Agriculture and Interior, with \$1,565,000 going to the latter.

Because the House and Senate failed to agree on the amount that should be appropriated, and particularly because the House favored a considerable reduction in the sum called for by the bill, the National Parks Association sent to its members and allied organizations its News Service Release Number 49, which discussed H. R. 6868. Members will recall that a letter accompanied the release suggesting that they urge their Congressmen to see that adequate funds would be provided.

In response to inquiries from Association members as to the outcome of that legislation, there follows here a résumé

of it, together with a review of the forest fire situation to date this year.

As the bill was finally passed, the sum appropriated to the Department of the Interior was \$812,000. Subsequently an additional appropriation of \$95,900 for the protection of forests was authorized in the appropriation act for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year 1943, thus making a total of \$907,900. This sum is of course in addition to the regular funds which the land-management agencies of the Department receive for the control of forest fire.

The Facility Security Program, as organized by the Office of Civilian Defense, provided for the execution of the protection programs by those agencies operating in the various resource and facility fields. The forestry agencies of the Department of the Interior, in cooperation with the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, were charged with the prosecution of the Timber and Related Facilities Program. Mr. Lee Muck, Assistant to the Secretary in Charge of Land Utilization in the Department of the Interior, was designated

as Chairman of the Action Subcommittee.

Within a comparatively short period of time after the emergency fire protection appropriation had been made available, funds were allotted to the action agencies of the Department of the Interior by the Office of Land Utilization. By the end of the fiscal year 1942 the emergency fire protection program had been fully organized and for the first time in the history of the Department a comparatively adequate plan of protection for the resources under its jurisdiction was placed in effect. These funds made it possible for the Department of the Interior to greatly strengthen the protection organizations on Indian lands, the grazing districts, the Oregon and California revested grant lands, the national parks, and the wildlife refuges. Protective measures were also provided for the unreserved and unappropriated public lands under the jurisdiction of the General Land Office. Operations in the continental United States were confined largely to lands situated within 300 miles of the eastern and western coasts and the gulfs of California and Mexico, by reason of the strategic importance of these zones from the standpoint of possible attacks from the air. Special consideration was given to the large areas of forest and brush land in the interior of the Territory of Alaska as adequate funds never have been available heretofore for the protection of these vast resources.

As a result of the additional personnel and equipment available to the action agen-

cies for protection purposes during the fire season of 1942 and the comparatively favorable weather conditions which prevailed, fire losses were held within reasonable limits. Detailed records with respect to the number of fires and area burned on land that is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service have not yet received final compilation. However, preliminary figures are available, and these give a fairly clear picture as things stand at the time of this writing.

The number of forest fires that started on park lands are 290; on private land within park boundaries, seven; fires that started outside and entered parks, seventy-one. That makes a total of 368 fires in 1942 to date.

The area reported burned is 3130 acres in forest, 493 acres in brush, 546 in grass, with a total of 4169 acres. The most serious fires were 685 acres along the Blue Ridge Parkway; 577 acres in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; 514 acres on the Natchez Trace; 393 acres in Shenandoah National Park; and 1110 acres in Yellowstone National Park. The average acreage burned during the past ten years on National Park Service lands through September 30 is 9168 acres. This year's figure shows a very encouraging decrease, particularly in view of the war, together with the anticipated threat of sabotage incendiaryism, and despite a critical period in the East early in May and a very serious lightning period in August in the Rocky Mountain section.

BAMBI

The screen version of Felix Salten's book, *Bambi*, is probably the most appealing and beautiful creation that has yet come from the Walt Disney Studio. But aside from its quality as a work of art, all admirers of nature and of the out-of-doors see in it another qualification that is worthy of praise. Stimulating an appreciation of nature, it should produce, particularly in the young, an enduring effect; for it not only shows the beauty that is in nature, but incidentally demonstrates the horror and destruction that nature suffers at the hand of careless and irresponsible man. Because of this the picture has met with high approval by conservationists the country over.

Afield With the Association's Secretary

In August the Association's Executive Secretary visited Glacier, Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. The following passages from his diary tell of the visit to Glacier.

Washington, D. C., August 1—A last-minute check-up this morning revealed that as far as the national parks are concerned, all is quiet on the congressional front. We therefore leave the sweltering Capitol tomorrow night.

Lake McDonald, August 5—Upon reaching Belton, west entrance to Glacier, we were most agreeably surprised to find Assistant Superintendent Lemuel A. (Lon) Garrison there to meet us and to drive

us to park headquarters for a brief chat. From our balcony here at Lake McDonald Hotel we look through the blue-green foliage of Douglas firs to the broad lake and the towering peaks beyond.

Lake McDonald, August 6.—Park Superintendent Donald S. Libby and Lon Garrison dropped in this morning. We had a little talk, and then they drove us to the trail that leads to Avalanche Lake. With the knapsack loaded with sandwiches and photographic equipment we climbed through the towering, dark forest. Typical of the forests growing west of the divide, the foliage patterns of giant hemlocks, western red cedars, white pines and firs

Mt. Cannon and Lake McDonald—"The scene and the activity were as they had been from the beginning".

Devereux Butcher



give this forest a characteristic beauty. Climbing a steep bit of trail, we looked up and saw a black bear eyeing us with curiosity a few feet beyond. If this bear had behaved as we believed all good black bears should we would not have been annoyed. As it was, he surrendered the trail in a most grudging, snorting manner. Avalanche Lake is encircled by high peaks and at its farthest end a mile away it is bounded by a rocky cirque with six foaming waterfalls tumbling thousands of feet down its precipitous ledges. Most of the lake shore is grown with a forest of spire-pointed trees. This tremendous scene was duplicated in the glassy water of the lake as we stepped from the forest onto the pebbly beach. Will we see anything more beautiful than this?

Lake McDonald, August 7—On this calm, brilliant morning we rowed the two miles across Lake McDonald. By drifting and remaining motionless in the boat we approached close to a family of ducks that swam in the shallow water along the shore. As we watched them, the great silence was broken by the scream of an eagle. Presently a young bald eagle flew along the shore below the tree tops and alighted in a dead tree above us. For a time he sat preening. When he departed it was only to return again accompanied by a pair of adult birds, their white heads and white tails showing brightly against the dark mountain background. Here we watched also a flock of seven American mergansers. With ourselves concealed among the trees on the lake shore, we saw them at play a few feet from us. Observing bird life thus, it seemed as though we had moved back in time. The scene and the activity were as they had been from the beginning. It is gratifying to observe wildlife undisturbed in its natural environment. In an effort to understand another point of view which is held by many in regard to wildlife, I tried to visualize these birds as they would appear to the gunner. But I cannot grasp that point of view. To me it

seems utterly removed from what is right. What pleasure, I wondered, could come from blasting the silence and strewing the water with dead birds. Here now is peace, and ever shall it be, for this great area provides sanctuary to all the wildlife within it.

This afternoon spectacular clouds formed. There were towering cumulus ones and broad cirrus ones, and far to the east up the valley of McDonald Creek we could see that they clung about the top of that rocky ridge called the Garden Wall.

Lake McDonald, August 8—This evening Lon Garrison and his wife dined with us at the hotel, and afterwards Lon and I had an opportunity to discuss some of the aspects of park maintenance.

Lake McDonald, August 9—On the way up to Fish Lake this morning we photographed a group of green mushrooms and a large purple one called *Cortinarius violaceus*, as well as some of the moss with which the floor of the forest is carpeted. The lake, high on Snyder Ridge, is nestled in the forest. Well inhabited by wildlife, but today deserted by humans, the peace of the scene was ours alone to enjoy.

Sperry Chalets, August 10—This morning we rode the six miles to Sperry Chalets. Amid towering rocky crags, these chalets stand on a little plateau that is grown with spire-pointed alpine firs and a few whitebark pines. Between the clumps of trees there are green meadows filled with flowers. There is red and pink Indian paintbrush, blue wild larkspur, red monkeyflower, purple pentstemons, the great white blooms of beargrass and others. This evening several of the famous white mountain goats came down to the chalets from their retreats on the rocky heights, and all night there was bleating and pounding of little hoofs.

Sperry Chalets, August 11—So far this has been our most thrilling day. We climbed the cirque to Sperry Glacier. The country en route to the glacier is, we decided, worth a trip across the continent to see. In several places we left the horse

trail to find our own way up moist meadows, over sparkling streams and around ledges. There were little lakes with snow drifts lying along their banks or with small icebergs floating on them. Waterfalls poured over mossy cliffs that were decked with ferns and alpine flowers. Far up we passed the last outpost of trees, scrubby little alpine firs, where at this altitude other tree species have given up the fight for existence; but even here we found an abundance of wildflowers, among them carpet pink and shooting star growing in the short grass. A marmot called to us once, and later we saw goats. One with its kid walked across a talus slope and onto a drift where the kid bounded and rolled in the snow. At the top of the cirque we looked eastward across the glacier to a maze of jagged peaks. Here, where winter lingers, the cold wind drove us to the shelter of a pile of rocks. While we ate lunch a pair of golden-mantled ground squirrels kept us company. This is a most attractive species of squirrel. It resembles the chipmunk of the East in color and markings, but is a little larger. We could not help reflecting upon the lives of these animals. They are active and see daylight for perhaps three months of the year. The rest of the time they are hibernating underground.

Going-to-the-Sun Chalets, August 13.

—All day was spent in the saddle as we journeyed the eighteen miles from Sperry Chalets to Going-to-the-Sun Chalets. The air has been full of smoke from forest fires in Canada, and the scenery, especially on the east side of the divide, is dimmed. We were sorry not to have a brilliant first view of this spectacular country as we came through Gunsight Pass. Part of the trail offers thrills to the dude, for it has been blasted out of the vertical face of the cliffs. In the valley of St. Mary River many miles of the trail run through a tall forest of lodgepole pine. Young spire-pointed spruces and firs form an understory here which makes a striking effect among the clean slender trunks of the pines. Much of

this forest is in bad condition. The pines are dying out in many places, and budworm is active on the spruces and firs. The prevalence of tree pests may be due to the exceedingly dry past several summers.

Going-to-the-Sun Chalets, August 15.

—This morning we took transportation to Logan Pass on the famous Going-to-the-Sun Highway, and from there we followed the trail that traverses the steep mountain sides and the west slope of the Garden Wall to Haystack Butte. All through the meadows near the pass the dark blue blossoms of gentian were just coming into their prime. On wet moss-covered ledges we found a few of the strange little butterworts in bloom. Each plant of this species has but a single blue flower borne on a long stalk that rises from the center of a whorl of glandular yellow leaves. High up beneath the Garden Wall we saw three bighorn sheep grazing in a small meadow. Standing in the sunshine they made bright silhouettes against a shaded cliff.

Tonight Ranger Hutchinson lectured and showed color slides of seven national parks. Carrying on where he left off, I showed our slides of five additional national parks.

Many Glacier Hotel, August 17.—We reached Many Glacier today for a short visit. To see and photograph an example of the forest's greatest tragedy we walked to the silver forest beyond Swiftcurrent Lake where, in 1936, fire destroyed many acres of fine timber. The skeleton of this forest rises from a vast tangle of weeds. Only in a few places are the lodgepole pines staging a comeback. Now, six years after the fire, the young trees range in size from a few inches to three feet in height. A long time must pass before a tall, green forest will clothe the scar.

Many Glacier Hotel, August 18.—Today the trail to Grinnell Lake led us through a forest of giant Engelmann spruce, and here we came upon a small colony of the bright orange coral mushroom which is scientifically known as

Clavaria flava. We photographed a plant of this in color. At the far end of Grinnell Lake where the falls thunder down from Grinnell Glacier we skirted the base of a rock slide and had the good fortune to see four of the little rabbit-like conies, one of which we succeeded in photographing.

This evening Lon Garrison dropped in for supper, and we had another talk.

Two Medicine Chalets, August 20.—This morning, against the gale that has persisted for several days, we rowed the

three miles to the west end of Two Medicine Lake. The trail from here to Twin Falls passes through a forest of tall, even-aged spruces. The ground cover consists of moss and ferns topped by a dense growth of pale green azalea bushes which give to this forest an unusually beautiful effect as they stretch away on all sides down the aisles of straight, gray trunks.

This evening at the chalets one of the rangers supplied a projector enabling me to lecture and show our color slides.

From the chalets at St. Mary Lake we saw the sun set behind the massive shaft of Going-to-the Sun Mountain. Then the whole mass of jagged peaks stood in black silhouette against the fading light and above them the crescent of the new moon. All reflected in the calm water of the lake.

National Park Service



THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

FADING TRAILS, The Story of Endangered American Wildlife, prepared by a committee of the U. S. Department of the Interior (National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service) and edited by Charles Elliott. Published by The Macmillan Company, New York. Illustrated. 279 pages. Price \$3.00.

The hordes of wildlife that once inhabited this continent have been slaughtered both for personal gain and through an unquenchable bloodlust on the part of countless thousands of humans.

To those who cannot or will not recognize the one cause other than mere taking over of land by civilization that is most responsible for wildlife depletion, *Fading Trails* will prove enlightening, for it speaks the truth. It discusses those species of wildlife which are no longer part of the American scene, as well as those whose trails are now fast fading.

In a chapter on the mountain lion the stupidity of man in his views and actions toward predators is well treated. The ruthlessness of man toward most forms of wildlife is also brought out frequently, but nowhere more significantly than in the chapter on the California condor. Says *Fading Trails*, "It did no harm to man, his crops or his livestock. The birds did not even offend by preying upon those wild creatures that man himself wished to hunt. Yet condors were killed simply because they were huge birds and made good targets." With a wingspread of nine and a half feet, the condor soaring above the peaks of California's coast ranges or gliding down among the rocky canyons presents a sight that no observer can forget. It is the ambition of every admirer of birdlife to see one of these giants, yet through needless killing these birds may soon vanish from the earth.

To the few who are aware of the tragedy

of American wildlife, *Fading Trails* will be regarded as a vigorous, up-to-the-minute repetition of the warning to save while there is still something to save. To others its message will come as a startling and disturbing revelation; while to many it must undoubtedly bring a sense of shame and guilt.

Fading Trails is a voice crying in the night of ignorance and apathy. To hasten the dawn of wider understanding of the need for wildlife conservation the book should be read by every American.

ADVENTURING IN SCENERY, by Daniel E. Willard, A.M. Published by The Jaques Cattell Press, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Illustrated. 438 pages. Price \$4.00.

This book deals with the geology of California. Though most books on geology are highly technical and are not read by the general reader, the author of this one has treated the subject in such an interesting and understandable way that even those who have no previous knowledge of geology can enjoy it. Through this book there will be opened up a new field of interest in the world of natural history. One chapter takes the reader on an imaginary trip through the length of California. Along the way the author points out and explains the many strange and beautiful topographical features. Other chapters discuss the history of geological processes and the effect which geologic features have upon stream flow, vegetation and so forth. There are chapters also on oil, gold and agriculture. The book is an education in itself, for it is filled with answers to innumerable questions—the kind of questions that the thoughtful observer asks upon viewing the natural wonders of California, the land of contrasts.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE



Miner R. Tillotson

Miner R. Tillotson (*Big Bend National Park Soon A Reality*) is a graduate of the School of Civil Engineering, Purdue University. For eleven years he was with the U. S. Forest Service in engineering and administrative capacities, and later spent a year and a half as construction engineer for the Standard Oil Company of California. Entering the National Park Service in 1921, he was first employed in engineering work at Yosemite National Park, and a year later was appointed park engineer at Grand Canyon National Park, becoming superintendent there in 1927, serving in that capacity until 1939, when he was appointed Regional Director, Region One, National Park Service. He has served as Regional Director, Region Three, Santa Fe, New Mexico, since 1940 to the present time. Mr. Tillotson was co-author with Frank J. Taylor of "*Grand Canyon Country*".



Dr. Paul Bartsch

Dr. Paul Bartsch (*Living Gems of the Everglades*) is a native of Breslau, Silesia, but came to this country at an early age. He graduated from the State University of Iowa, and then took a position at the U. S. National Museum in Washington, D. C., where today he is Curator of Mollusks. In 1907 Dr. Bartsch was in charge of the pearl mussel inquiry in the Mississippi Valley conducted by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. He then became the Smithsonian representative on the Philippine Expedition and the Gulf of California Expedition. He also accompanied expedi-

tions to the Bahamas, Cuba and the Lesser Antilles. In 1918 Dr. Bartsch furnished the poison gas detector to the Chemical Warfare Service. Besides his connections with numerous scientific organizations, he is the author of 384 papers on mollusks.



William L. Finley

William L. Finley (*Picturing Wildlife in the National Parks*) is widely known as a naturalist and wildlife photographer. In 1903 he and Irene Barnhart graduated from the University of California, and in 1906 they were married. Both since have devoted their lives to the conservation of natural resources through travel, photography, writing and lecturing.

For the past forty years Bill and Irene have cruised and explored from the bird islands of the Gulf of Mexico to the Bering Sea of Alaska. With cameras and notebooks they have packed over the highest passes of the Cascade and Rocky Mountain ranges and through most of the national parks. They have produced over 200,000 feet of motion picture film and more than 50,000 still negatives. Their photographs and writings have been published in books and many magazines.

Some of the first pictures and reports on the sea and inland water birds of Oregon by Mr. Finley resulted in the establishment of important federal reservations in 1907-8 when President Theodore Roosevelt issued special executive proclamations setting aside Three Arch Rocks, Lower Klamath and Malheur Lakes as bird refuges. To help conserve wildlife resources, Mr. Finley has been a member of many conservation organizations. He is a member of the National Parks Association's Advisory Council.



Ralph H. Anderson

Ralph H. Anderson (*Soldier Takes A Hike*) is Information Clerk - Photographer at Yosemite National Park. A native of Anderson, Ohio, he spent much of his early years hiking over the picturesque hill country of southern Ohio developing an interest in the out-of-doors. He attended Ohio State University and later went to Prescott, Arizona, where, during five years with the Forest Service, he was a fire look-

out and then district ranger at Skull Valley. A summer in a photographic studio, a year at the University of Cincinnati, and two terms as riding instructor at the Arizona Desert School, Tucson, gave him added experience before becoming a ranger at Yosemite. After serving in that capacity for two years he was promoted to his present position. Mr. Anderson is also a nationally known photographer, for his photographs have hung in many salons and have appeared in newspapers and magazines here and abroad. He won a medal from the International Photographic Salon at Madrid, Spain, prior to the revolution.

NEWS FROM THE CONSERVATION BATTLEFRONTS

SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE, 250 Administration Building, University of California, Berkeley, California.—Preservation of the Avenue of the Giants in all its primeval beauty and grandeur is an important objective of the Save-the-Redwoods League. This famous forest north of High Rock, near Dyerville, California, is in the path of logging operations. Many of the redwoods there are more than 350 feet tall and over 2,000 years old. Near-by in the Humboldt Redwoods State Park, on Dyerville Flats and Bull Creek Flat, are the world's tallest known standing trees, the loftiest attaining a height of 364 feet.

The State of California is ready to expend up to \$50,000 for redwood forest land acquisition in the Avenue of the Giants area during the present biennium, providing the State money is matched by a like amount from other sources. The Save-the-Redwoods League aims to raise this other one-half of the sum required. It is hoped that the League shall have the financial aid of collaborators all over America in order to complete this protective program.

Establishment of memorial redwood groves by public-spirited individuals, fami-

lies and groups is an important factor in the plan for saving the Avenue of the Giants.—AUBREY DRURY, *Administrative Secretary*.

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, 1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.—We felt sure all along that hunting of both migratory and resident game would be allowed as usual, but we hoped, in this year of such awful sacrifice of human-kind, that at least a few of our most sorely threatened wild species might be given a respite from the gun.

But such forbearance is not to be. Again we find our beautiful wood duck marked for slaughter in the United States, although still under protection in Canada. The white-winged dove of our Southwest, growing scarcer every year, must continue to be gun-fodder. Our wider ranging mourning dove, admitted by the highest authorities to be seriously threatened, is still on the game list in the South, although organizations in several states have worked valiantly to close the season. The woodcock which suffered a loss of forty percent two years ago on its wintering grounds in the Gulf States, must still face a barrage of guns as it moves southward through October, November and December from its

summer home in the northeastern states and the eastern provinces. The several seasonal shooting zones coincide with its migration.

Some argue that hunting this year is a patriotic duty, but we are unable to see how any pursuit that hastens the disappearance of species of our native fauna can increase one's patriotism.—EDWARD A. PREBLE, *Naturalist*.

WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, 3740 Oliver Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.—Fall months draw attention to the need for the conservation of holly. We are frequently asked why the berry-bearing (female) trees are becoming scarce. The answer is that, particularly from New Jersey to North Carolina and within twenty-five miles of the coast, the female trees are gradually being exterminated through destructive and unscientific harvesting. In some states definite progress has been made to conserve holly, but perhaps in the long run the best solution toward the preservation of wild holly would be in the establishment of holly nurseries. There is urgent need for extensive orchards of large, heavy-bearing female trees for the Christmas trade. In Washington and Oregon such orchards of English holly have already been established.

There is opportunity, too, for an enterprising nurseryman or farmer to develop a strain having the hardiness of the American species and the glossy leaves and large, abundant berries of the English tree.

Though it may require as much as ten years to start a holly nursery, and another several years to bring it into full production, such a nursery would undoubtedly prove to be a most profitable enterprise.—P. L. RICKER, *President*.

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, Conservation Committee, 227 Poinciana Drive, Birmingham, Alabama.—The major concern of the two and a half million members of the General Federation is to help win this war, and write an effective peace.

Because forest products are indispensable, the following suggestions were sent to conservation leaders in every state as the current club year dawned: 1. All clubwomen

should participate in the wartime forest fire prevention campaign by placing stickers in ashtrays in public motor vehicles. Stickers read, "Careless matches aid the axis and forest fires delay victory." 2. Urge clubwomen to express desires to Congressmen concerning Senator McNary's amendment to S. 2629 for increased forest fire protection. 3. Organize projects to have forest fire prevention posters placed in every schoolroom. 4. Establish a voluntary forest fire fighters service in every community, volunteers to be enrolled in the regular Civilian Defense channels with arm bands, automobile plates, and cards for identification.—MRS. T. M. FRANCIS, *Chairman*.

IZAACK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, La Salle Hotel, Chicago.—Throughout the West certain groups of well entrenched stockmen enjoying grazing permits on the national forests or public lands, have attempted to use the war as an excuse for further entrenching themselves on the publicly owned lands, and invading wilderness areas and others which under present management are not open to grazing. Even the national parks are not safe from this concerted effort of a small but powerful group of western stockmen. With the lesson before us of over-grazing under the guise of war necessity or patriotism during the last war, from which our national forests have not yet recovered, it behooves us to be eternally vigilant to see that we do not repeat the error of bad land management to satisfy the selfish and shortsighted desires of one special interest.—KENNETH A. REID, *Executive Secretary*.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York.—When we established, in 1935, a small sanctuary on Cape May, New Jersey, we were attempting little more than to hold a position for the hawk migration where we could protect these useful and magnificent birds from the ill-considered slaughter to which they are subjected.

Now, only seven years after taking over the little sanctuary, we have been able to arrange for a much larger sanctuary that takes

in the entire wooded areas where migrants tend to congregate. This step has been made possible by the good will of the landowners involved—a good will that proves a recognition on the part of the growing community, of the value of the sanctuary and of wildlife protection. Thus from comparatively small beginnings do Audubon sanctuary projects grow.—JOHN H. BAKER, *Executive Director*.

To bring to the readers of National Parks Magazine a glimpse of the problems in other fields of conservation, the Editors extend an invitation to conservation organizations throughout the United States and Canada to submit quarterly news items for publication in "News From The Conservation Battlefronts." Items for the January-March issue should be submitted by December 1st.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

77th Congress to Oct. 1, 1942

Legislation affecting the national parks and National Park Service has become inactive and is likely to remain comparatively inactive, perhaps for the duration. Certain bills which have not been passed in the present session of Congress may be reintroduced in a later session and among these there are a few which should be kept in mind by conservationists.

- H. R. 3395 (White). To provide for the construction of a highway within Yellowstone National Park as an entrance from the State of Idaho, and to authorize appropriation of \$1,000,000 for this purpose. Introduced February 17, 1941. The proposed highway would constitute an unnecessary and undesirable intrusion into the wilderness southwest corner of the park. An item appeared in an Idaho newspaper last August stating that further effort to have this bill passed would be abandoned for the duration.
- H. R. 6657 (Jennings). To authorize the acceptance of donations of land for the construction of a scenic parkway to provide an appropriate view of Great Smoky Mountains National Park from the Tennessee side. Introduced February 24. Passed House April 20. Recommended for passage by the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, September 28, 1942. Such a road outside present park boundaries would not intrude within superlative wilderness areas.
- S. 329 (Ellender). To provide for the establishment of the Tensas Swamp National Park, Louisiana. Introduced January 14, 1941. Reported upon adversely by the Interior Department on advice of the Bureau of the Budget to Committee on Public Lands and Surveys. Timber is now being rapidly cut in this area. See "Act Now, Louisiana" in the July-September issue National Parks Magazine.
- H. R. 3793 (Hook). To safeguard and protect the public interest through the creation of conditions under which the remaining uncut stands of timber of the hemlock hardwood types in the northern parts of the States of Michigan and Wisconsin can be conserved and utilized in orderly and constructive ways which will perpetuate the economic and social potentialities of the forest resources and establish the best practicable balance between the current needs and future requirements of the people, industries and communities of the regions in which such forest resources are situated and the remainder of the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced March 4, 1941. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

An Amendment was added to Section 3 stating in effect that if the secretaries of Agriculture and Interior can agree upon an area not to exceed 75,000 acres which would be suitable for inclusion in a national monument, it shall be so established by Presidential Proclamation.

The area tentatively suggested for national monument status extends from the Presque Isle River on the west along the Lake Superior Shore east to the Iron River and roughly seventeen miles south to include the Porcupine Mountains.

The departments of Agriculture and Interior were to prepare and submit reports on the proposed amendments to the Bureau of the Budget. The Department of Agriculture has done so. Until both reports have been approved by the Bureau of the Budget there will be no action by Congress.

It is highly desirable that this small remnant of the once vast forests of the Great Lakes Region be preserved.

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WHY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Origin of the National Park System and Service.

Wanderers penetrating the wilderness which is today known as Yellowstone National Park told tales of the natural wonders of the area. To verify these tales an expedition was sent out in 1872. At the campfire one evening, a member of the expedition conceived the plan of having these natural spectacles placed in the care of the government to be preserved for the inspiration, education and enjoyment of all generations. After the party made its report to Congress, Yellowstone National Park came into being. Today its geysers, its forests and its wildlife are spared and the area is a nearly intact bit of the original wilderness which once stretched across the continent.

Since 1872 twenty-five other highly scenic areas, each one a distinct type of original wilderness of outstanding beauty, have also been spared from commercial exploitation and designated as national parks. Together they comprise the National Park System. To manage the system the National Park Service was formed in 1916. In its charge are national monuments as well as other areas and sites of varied classification.

Commercial Encroachment and Other Dangers

Most people believe that the national parks have remained and will remain inviolate, but this is not wholly true. Selfish commercial interests seek to have bills introduced in Congress making it legal to graze livestock, cut timber, develop mines, dam rivers for waterpower, and so forth, within the parks. It is sometimes possible for an organized small minority working through Congress to have its way over an unorganized vast majority.

Thus it is that a power dam built in 1913 floods the once beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park which still remains the only commercialized water of consequence in the System; and that during World War I certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads which destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities, and the inclusion of areas which do not conform to national park standards, and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed for economic use, constitute other threats to the system. A danger also grows out of the recent establishment as parts of the national park system of ten other kinds of parks lacking the standards of the world-famous primeval group. These are designated by descriptive adjectives, while the primitive group is not. Until these are officially entitled **national primeval parks** to distinguish them from the others, they will remain subject to political assaults.

National Parks Association

The Association was established in 1919 to serve the high standards adopted at the creation of the National Park Service. It gives the nation a voice in maintaining primeval standards in the parks. Its membership is composed of men and women who know the value of preserving for all time these few small remnants of the original wilderness of North America. Non-political and non-partisan, it stands ready to oppose violations to the sanctity of the National Park System. When threats occur, the Association suggests to its members and allied organizations through its news service or through the pages of this magazine to take action by expressing their wishes to their Congressmen or to others in authority. Among the achievements of the Association and its many allies are the prevention of the damming of Yellowstone Lake, participation in the establishment of twelve of the thirteen latest national parks and of many national monuments.

The National Parks and You

To insure the preservation of this heritage, the combined force of thinking Americans is needed. Membership in the National Parks Association offers a means through which you may do your part in guarding the national parks. Join now. Annual membership is \$3.00 a year; supporting membership \$5.00 a year; sustaining membership \$10.00 a year; contributing membership \$25.00 a year; life membership \$100.00, and patron membership \$1,000.00 with no further dues. All memberships include subscription to NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

REMEMBERING AND PRACTICING THE MOTTO

"LIVE AND LET LIVE"

THE TRUE SPORTSMAN HELPS THE CAUSE OF CONSERVATION

